

Zionist Threat to U.S. Liberties

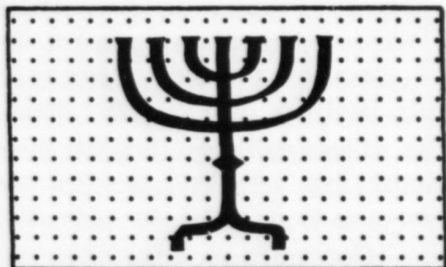
By DR. JOHN NICHOLLS BOOTH

A sermon delivered in the Unitarian Church of Long Beach, California

B'nai B'rith, a Zionist apparatus, has penetrated deeply into our government, communications media and educational institutions

IF THE ETHICS of that noble and ancient religion, Judaism, were being followed by B'nai B'rith this sermon would not be necessary. Our remarks concern departures from Judaic, Christian and plain humanitarian principles that are plunging this Nation and the world's peoples toward the fiery ovens of war. Does a subject require any greater justification for study than this?

Jewish people have been generally free of criticism for so many years, in sympathy with their plight under the Nazis, that even the mildest reproach creates an emotional shock, at first, in many Americans. An automatic doubt arises: "Can this be anti-Semitism?" Carelessly, they sometimes fail to distinguish between such terms as "Zionist" and "Jew," or acknowledge that a critical discussion of Jewish organizations is not an attack upon religion. When the moral issues are presented clearly, backed by scholarly research into the historical facts, they tend to separate themselves from this anxiety. then, at last, they can judge normally and more clearly the evidence before them.



Every religion has its supporting organizations intended to advance the principles of that faith. When love of worldly values, i.e., power, materialism and parochialism, supersedes spiritual goals, such as justice, truth and mercy, the corruption of the so-called religiously oriented institution takes place. This tragic abandonment of the lofty precepts of the religion itself betrays the inspired founders of the subsidiary establishment.

B'nai B'rith in National Politics

B'nai B'rith has entered the political arena. It is becoming increasingly aggressive in extending Zionist influence, on behalf of a foreign state, into the fields of American government, education, business, and the communications media. If it were not privileged as a "tax exempt, charitable, religious" organization, but like the Jewish Agency's U.S. office were functioning under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, this aspect of its work would be legal.

In a roundabout way, we were led to this revelation of the power, influence and methods of B'nai B'rith. Initially, in our concern for justice in various trouble spots of the world, we zeroed in on the immoral treatment and misrepresentation of the Palestinian Arabs. This research disclosed that the United States government, hand-in-hand with American Zionists, provided the "arm-twisting" of just enough reluctant states in the United Nations to secure the favorable 1947 vote creating Israel.

Puzzled by the one-sided and distorted view of the Arab-Israel relationship, held by most Americans, we began to probe the reasons for it in the communications media, politicians' pronouncements, and Zionist activities.

As increased American military support for Israel began to assume ominous parallels to the early days of our drift into the Vietnam war, it became clear that we should no longer be trying simply to rectify wrongs done to the Arabs but also to prevent a major war tragedy from engulfing the world.

Finally, in this three year intellectual journey marked by our series of sermons as each new step developed in our understanding of the truer and deeper implications of Zionism's influence upon our domestic and foreign policy, B'nai B'rith, with cooperating Zionist groups, surfaced as a silent colossus. Its ever-flowing financial assets, octopus-like spread into the very fabric of our society, and unceasing drive to influence in questionable ways the economic, political and communications machinery of the United States, are beyond the scope of most people's current realization. It shows up the right wing John Birch Society activities and left wing extremist group threats to American liberties as amateurish, weak and miniscule by comparison.

ADL Nationwide Operations

An Anti-Defamation League pamphlet calls B'nai B'rith, "the largest Jewish organization in the world. The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) operates through a national office in New York City and 28 regional offices throughout the country plus two in Canada, which are staffed by trained personnel in the field of human relations and by specialists in communications, education, urban affairs, the social sciences, religion and law." The pamphlet states: "Each regional office has its own board drawn from leaders and prominent citizens in its area. Thus, in hun-

dreds of communities throughout the nation, the ADL is able to cooperate as a neighbor to solve important local problems . . ."

Yet, the vast enterprise of ADL is but one section of B'nai B'rith. In 1967, with a budget of five million dollars and 215,000 members, this single Jewish organization was larger than the entire Unitarian Universalist movement in North America. Gentiles are jolted to learn the extent of the apparatus at the disposal of pro-Israel Jewish forces in America.

Over two hundred Jewish publications are published in English alone. Samuel Halperin, in his scholarly work, *The Political World of American Zionism*, lists over 100 national American Jewish organizations. There are more than 13 adult Zionist organizations and 10 Zionist youth groups in America. In 1968, the World Zionist Congress decided unanimously to establish territorial Zionist federations in every country throughout the world.

The Jewish community organizes and dissolves so many committees, councils and federations with important sounding names, and uses them to barrage editors, politicians and others with letters, documents, awards and advice, that the non-Jew does well to exercise caution as to their relative importance. In Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings on Zionist activities in America, Senator J. William Fulbright expressed his dilemma in understanding the maze of names, connections and purposes.

Interlocking Leadership

Recipients of Zionist propaganda pieces from different groups may not realize the degree to which their personnel and memberships are duplicated. For instance, it is revealing to note the overlapping of leadership among *the three key organizations*—the Jewish Agency (registered in the U.S. as a foreign agent; called "one of the world's

best-financed shadow governments" by a Reform rabbi); the United Israel Appeal (UIA); and the United Jewish Appeal (UJA). A vice chairman of the UIA is a registered foreign agent of Israel who also works for the Jewish Agency. Another Jewish Agency registered foreign agent is a UIA director and former president of Hadassah. The executive vice chairman of UIA, Mr. Hammer, is also secretary of UJA. This recurring pattern permits the illusion of several powerful and mutually independent organizations, which is not true.

Each group in our pluralistic society has a right to organize and carry on activities for its own benefit. This privilege should only be abridged if and when its activities threaten or infringe upon the rights, security and welfare of the rest of the population. Zionists are subject to this rule just as much as Fascists, Communists, Birchers, extremists or activists of any persuasion. Persons who would protest criticism against any organization or segment of the population, because it is church - associated, misunderstand the nature of tolerance and do us all a disservice. Silence about ethical breaches by any ethnic, religious, or political group is not merely morally wrong. It may mean actual acquiescence in the undermining of American principles and institutions. This is the ethnical foundation for our survey of B'nai B'rith and Zionism in the world today.

Advancing the Cause of Israel

On May 18, 1970, *The National Observer* published a lengthy study, beginning on its front page, by Lawrence Mosher, headlined "Zionist Rule in U.S. Raises New Concern." It points out that Jewish organizations like B'nai B'rith, ostensibly designed for purely charitable, religious purposes and hence tax-exempt, seem incontestably involved in advancing the cause of Israel through illegal fund collecting, disseminating propaganda and directing political activity.

"The world Zionist movement is big business," writes Mosher. "In the first two decades after Israel's precarious birth in 1948, it channeled an estimated \$4 billion in donations into the country. Following the Arab-Israeli war, the Zionists raised another \$730,000,000 in just two years. This year, the movement is seeking \$500,000,000 for Israel, much of which will come from the United States.

"For American Jews, the Zionist insistence upon prime allegiance to Israel sometimes raises personal problems of dual loyalty," Mr. Mosher continues. "For official Washington, sensitive to the dangers of a possible Big Power confrontation in the Middle East, there is genuine concern over the undoubted ability of Zionists to influence U.S. policy in favor of Israel."

The National Observer's disclosures are not really new. Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings in 1963 revealed an illegal "conduit" operation run by the American Zionist Council. Over \$5,000,000 had been funneled to this organization from Israel's Jewish Agency, over eight years to create a favorable public opinion toward the Jewish government's policies. Told to desist, Zionists simply proceeded to establish new and ingeniously devious avenues apparently to circumvent the law. At last a federal case has been introduced against B'nai B'rith and its officers, paradoxically by Saul E. Joftes, a former high official of that organization. It hopes to penetrate the jungle of Zionist groups that has hidden the size, nature, source and ultimate uses of tax-deductible money theoretically given for charity but seemingly diverted, knowingly, for the support of Israel in America. It is this dubiously ethical activity that has thrown the critical spotlight on B'nai B'rith and Zionist movements.

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How does the ADL build domestic reprisals to stop developments that

might handicap Israel? The Municipal Research Institute, Los Angeles, California, recently addressed a questionnaire to over 14,000 government and other leaders seeking opinions as to why U.S. involvement in Israel's affairs continues and whether this is in the best interest of our nation. These are not merely reasonable questions, similar to those asked about Vietnam, but should be raised in any policy debate.

Three men, headed by Harvey Leon Schechter, a professional of the Anti-Defamation League, suddenly appeared in the office of Mr. R.H. Mitman, the chief engineer of the M.R.I. Courteously, but clearly implied between the lines of the conversation that followed, the benefits of dropping this line of poll-taking were stressed and the financial disadvantages that might accrue were indicated. We could use stronger legal and moral words to describe this "suggestion."

On September 21, 1970, in a more characteristic threat of harrassment, illegitimately using the full weight of the U.S. government to enforce it, Congressman Seymour Halpern, of New York's Sixth District, wrote Mr. Mitman just three sentences:

Sir: I resent the tone and innuendos of your recent correspondence. The bigotry and stupidity reflected in the questions prompted me, at first, to simply throw it (sic) into the waste paper basket with the other trash. However, I am answering to tell you that I have asked the Attorney General to check out your organization and its present tax status. Signed (without any salutation), Seymour Halpern.

It is fearful when an open, simple inquiry into our national policy affecting Israel can subject one to torment, threatened economic reprisals and silencing efforts by the ADL and the power of the government itself, used by a Zionist Congressman whose previous

record is well known. How many other people and businesses have suffered this fate and worse but have been too afraid to bring it into public view?

Subsidized Propaganda Tours

Israel's Ministry of Tourism decided to offset adverse headlines in the American press about the constant aerial bombing of Arab lands by inviting 1200 foreign newsmen for an Israel visit. B'nai B'rith not only recruited journalists but organized their subsidized tours. A confidential memo (12/26/67) from Joseph Sklover to B'nai B'rith president, William Wexler, impounded in the U.S. District Court in Washington, states that the Jewish organization provided \$557 toward the trip of *New York Times* writer Irving Spiegel, to Israel. He became a press agent, not a newsmen.

It is difficult to justify the ethics of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in allegedly employing its 'non-profit organization' postal permit to disseminate Israeli propaganda publications. On June 26 and again on July 20th, for example, Rabbi Solomon Bernards of the ADL shipped out official Israeli Information Services pamphlets to provide the state's version of the 1967 war.

The astronomical mailings on behalf of Israel boggle the imagination of non-Jews. Reportedly, Zionists blanket key Americans in government, education, business, communications and religion with 1,200,000 mailing pieces each month. This, too, has been going on for a long period. Samuel Halperin points out that a Zionist group in 1939 inspired the transmittal of half a million telegrams to the White House demanding U.S. intervention in Palestine. "In 1943-44 a single Zionist group—the ZOA—distributed over one million leaflets and pamphlets to selected public libraries, chaplains, community centers, journalists, educators, editors, ministers, writers and other opinion-moulders," he wrote. "Pro-Zionist books and

pamphlets by notable non-Jews were occasionally subsidized by Zionists, sometimes promoted jointly with commercial publishers, and then distributed free to influential persons.

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Undercover Zionist Operations

Americans are highly sensitive about threats to their privacy and liberties on the part of any wire-tapping or spy agency, private or governmental. Rabbi Marc H. Tannenbaum sent out a confidential memo, April 2, 1969, for the American Jewish Committee of which Arthur J. Goldberg was the president, saying: "Specific committees should be organized to monitor Christian publications, speakers, programs, etc. that take place in church settings." Since June, 1967 the Anti-Defamation League has been monitoring all radio broadcasts, especially talk shows. Dr. M. T. Mehdi labelled it a "self-righteous vigilante group of watchdogs . . . a wicked device for thought control."

The building up of what could be called the Jewish Gestapo, or largest non-governmental "spy" system functioning in the United States, has taken time. Leonard Slater's book *The Pledge* (Simon and Schuster, Inc., N.Y., 1970) a pro-Zionist treatise, is useful for information concerning the illegal programs devised to create the state of Israel. Beginning in 1945, in many countries of the world, Zionists enlisted key Jews and Gentiles, connived with judges, customs officials, politicians and even, assertedly, the F.B.I. to smuggle weaponry and men out of the U.S. and Europe, past the British, into Palestine for the day of reckoning with the Arabs.

In June, 1947, Nahum Bernstein, an attorney, taught espionage and hand-to-hand fighting, under the guise of Talmudic studies, in New York City. It was an intelligence school. An Orthodox, religious, tax-exempt, institution called the National Council of Young Israel, was where it held its meeting. The key

man in the "American arm of the underground Haganah," Rudolf G. Sonnenborn, gloated in October, 1947: "We have today at least one person in virtually every community in America."

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B'nai B'rith has also promoted the interests of Israel by a negative method of information suppression and slander contrary to the ideals of our democratic philosophy. Benefitting by a pervasive web of invisible controls, the nature of which should be somewhat clearer now, it has made it exceedingly difficult for information about the Arabs' position to be heard fairly or adequately in the U.S.A. In addition, the Anti-Defamation League has engaged in the very activity that it was established to counteract: *defamation*. To discredit those who interpret favorably the Arab position, or criticize Israel unfavorably, it often alleges to have made studies that indicate such persons are really motivated by anti-Semitism.

Smear Attempts

The prominent editor of the *United Church Observer*, in Toronto, Canada, A.C. Forrest, after saying that 'Israel stands condemned before world opinion by her treatment of Arab refugees' was vilified by rabbis and other Ontario Zionists. The editor of *The Canadian Zionist* did admit that he was a "compassionate and kindly" man but charged that he was writing "monstrous allegations" and "falsehood." The Israeli ambassador, Gershon Avner, charged that Forrest had been "an inveterate opponent of the state of Israel . . . since 1948." "We have a file on you and it goes back 20 years," a prominent Zionist warned. The editor laughed saying he wasn't even writing about the Middle East 20 years ago. The whole smear proved ridiculous.

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If scores of Gentile critics of Israeli aggression and injustices have suffered character assassination, it is no more

than the psychological horrors that Zionists have inflicted upon their fellow Jews who oppose the basic policies of that state. Rabbi Elmer Berger, Dr. Alfred M. Lilienthal, Rabbi Julian Morgenstern, Morris S. Lazaron, Lessing Rosenwald, Arthur Hays Sulzberger and others have recounted grim experiences. As a partial result, knowledgeable Zionists insist that only one half of one percent of all Jews are not active or passive Zionists today.

Opponents are Denounced

Years ago, to combat Jewish non-Zionists, Zionists stood up, or wrote articles, denouncing these dissenters. It is remindful of Communist programs for tattling on the derelictions of comrades. Denunciatory articles were published. Sample titles: "A Stab in the Back," "Anti-Zionism—A Fear Psychosis," "They Sharpened the Dagger." Even rabbis who wouldn't buy the Zionist line or become Israel Firsters were garbaged as self-hating, marginal or minimal Jews.

Does one have to prolong the narration of this astonishing record to indicate the nature of Zionism's threat to American liberties through B'nai B'rith, its Anti-Defamation League and cooperating pro-Israel groups? Despite the proliferation of a bewildering number and complexity of Zionist organizations, seemingly established in part to evade the law on enemy agents and to secure profitable tax exemptions, there exists a power focus capable of devastating effects upon American life.

The number of full time, generously paid and well trained professionals to service the Jewish community is so large that Klotznick defines the corpus as a true civil service. It administers a "shadow nation" or subculture of five to six million people who reside in the United States and hold American citizenship. An unknown number are also Israeli citizens, for double citizenship is not just allowed but encouraged.

To further Israel's cause, this Zionist apparatus, backed by a flood of money, drills deep into our government, communications media, educational institutions and business/financial circles. Evidence indicates that it has seemingly violated the very foundation principles of trust, freedom and loyalty that are basic to the development of a great nation.

At its behest, citizen has risen up against citizen. Zionism has developed a Big Brother spy system wherein no man may be free of character assassination or prying eyes. It has operated to warp foreign policy to the needs of Israel, to purchase support by subtle threats of reprisals, and suppress vital information necessary for Americans to understand unfolding events in the Middle East.

"In a democracy," Paul Blanshard once wrote, "every group that affects public policy must be accountable to the entire citizenry. A democracy cannot survive if Iron Curtains are placed around groups, secular or religious, that intervene in public affairs." Charles Darwin declared: "Great is the power of steady misrepresentation, but the history of science shows that fortunately this power does not long endure." We who have dared to discuss these unpleasant facts are confident that our nation can long endure only as we expose and weed out threats to its integrity, humanity and idealism. The rest depends upon the conscience and determination of Americans who will take this message seriously.

ABOUT THE ABOVE ARTICLE

The above article is comprised of excerpts from an address by Dr. Booth. The entire sermon ("The Dubious Ethics of B'nai B'rith") is available for 15 cents from the Unitarian Church of Long Beach, 5450 Atherton Street, Long Beach, Calif. 90815. A related sermon, "Zionist Myth Information Examined," is also available at 15 cents each.